

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
26 February 2004 (26.02.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/017238 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: G06F 17/60, 17/30

(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB2003/003475

(22) International Filing Date: 11 August 2003 (11.08.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data: 0218990.0 14 August 2002 (14.08.2002) GB

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): MES-SAGELABS LIMITED [GB/GB]; 1270 Landsdowne Court, Gloucestershire Business Park, Gloucester GL3 4AB (GB).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): SHIPP, Alexander [GB/GB]; Star Internet, Brighouse Court, Barm Wood, Gloucester GL4 3RT (GB).

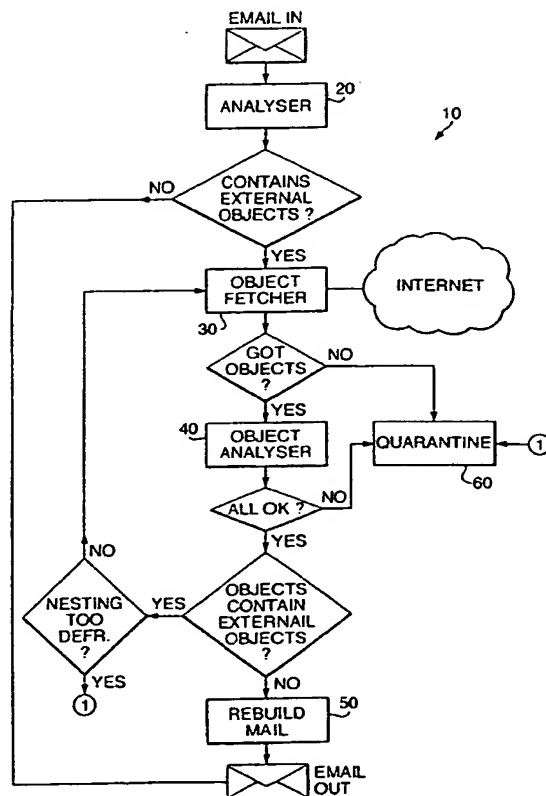
(74) Agents: AYERS, Martyn, Lewis, Stanley et al.; J.A. Kemp & Co., 14 South Square, Gray's Inn, London WC1R 5JJ (GB).

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD OF, AND SYSTEM FOR, SCANNING ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS WHICH CONTAIN LINKS TO EXTERNAL OBJECTS



(57) Abstract: A content scanner for electronic documents such as email scans objects which are the target of hyperlinks within the document. If they are determined to be acceptable, a copy of the object is attached to the document and the link is replaced by one pointing to the copied object.

WO 2004/017238 A1



European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

Published:

— *with international search report*

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/GB 03/03475

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G06F17/60 G06F17/30

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 00 65483 A (SURFNOTES INC ;HIRSCH SCOTT (US)) 2 November 2000 (2000-11-02) Sections 3, 3.2 and 5. page 3, line 4 - line 29; figure 13	1-12
A	US 6 298 444 B1 (FOSS ANDREW L ET AL) 2 October 2001 (2001-10-02) column 2, line 42 -column 3, line 6	1-12
A	"LOOK AHEAD FILTERING OF INTERNET CONTENT" IBM TECHNICAL DISCLOSURE BULLETIN, IBM CORP. NEW YORK, US, vol. 40, no. 12, 1 December 1997 (1997-12-01), page 143 XP000754118 ISSN: 0018-8689 the whole document	1-12

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

17 October 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

24/10/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Huber, A

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/GB 03/03475

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>MONTEBELLO M ET AL: "Evolvable intelligent user interface for WWW knowledge-based systems"</p> <p>DATABASE ENGINEERING AND APPLICATIONS SYMPOSIUM, 1998. PROCEEDINGS. IDEAS'98. INTERNATIONAL CARDIFF, UK 8-10 JULY 1998, LOS ALAMITOS, CA, USA, IEEE COMPUT. SOC, US,</p> <p>8 July 1998 (1998-07-08), pages 224-233, XP010294640</p> <p>ISBN: 0-8186-8307-4</p> <p>Sections 2.1, 2.2 and 2.5.1.</p>	1-12

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Internat Application No

PCT/GB 03/03475

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 0065483	A	02-11-2000	AU	4493000 A	10-11-2000
			WO	0065483 A2	02-11-2000
US 6298444	B1	02-10-2001	US	6119231 A	12-09-2000